

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A medical information system, said system comprising:
 - a medical information source, said medical information source providing medical information in a medical information format;
 - a medical image source, said medical image source providing medical images in a medical image format;
 - an interface unit adapted to receive said medical information, wherein said interface unit is adapted to automatically translate said medical information into a medical image format-compatible format in response to receiving said medical information, wherein said interface unit is adapted to receive said medical image, wherein said interface unit is adapted to automatically create associated medical data including at least one of a link to said medical information and said medical information in said medical image format-compatible format associated with at least one of a link to said medical image and said medical image in response to automatically translating said medical information, and transmitting said associated medical data, said medical image and medical information associated for transmission as associated medical data in said medical-image format compatible format based on a common identification element; and
 - a data center receiving said associated medical data and storing for later retrieval said associated medical data including at least one of a link to said medical information and said medical information associated with at least one of a link to said medical image and said medical image.
2. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said data center comprises an archive for storing medical images and medical information.
3. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said data center comprises a viewer for allowing access to medical images and medical information.
4. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said medical image source comprises a picture archiving and communications system.

5. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said medical information source comprises a hospital information system.

6. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said medical information source comprises a radiology information system.

7. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said data center comprises an application service provider.

8. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said data center further comprises an external access interface for allowing users to access medical images and medical information at said data center.

9. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said medical information comprises radiology information.

10. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said interface comprises a broker for translating said medical information format.

11. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein said broker translates from Health Level Seven format to Structured Query Language format.

12. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said data center comprises a web server for allowing access to medical images and medical information via at least one web browser.

13. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said data center comprises a DICOM viewing workstation for allowing access to medical images and medical information.

14. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said data center further stores links to said medical information.

15. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said data center further stores links to said medical image.

16. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said interface unit transmits a link representing the location of said medical information

17. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said interface unit transmits a link representing the location of said medical image.

18. (Previously Presented) A centralized medical information system, said system comprising:

an interface unit adapted to receive medical information from a medical information source in a medical information format, wherein said interface unit is adapted to automatically translate said medical information into a medical image format-compatible format in response to receiving said medical information, wherein said interface unit is adapted to receive a medical image from a medical image source in a medical image format, wherein said interface unit is adapted to automatically create associated medical data including at least one of a link to said medical information and said medical information in said medical image format-compatible format associated with at least one of a link to said medical image and said medical image in response to automatically translating said medical information, and transmitting said associated medical data, said medical image and medical information associated for transmission as associated medical in said medical-image format compatible format data based on a common identification element; and

a data center receiving said associated medical data and storing for later retrieval said associated medical data including at least one of a link to said medical information and said medical information associated with at least one of a link to said medical image and said medical image.

19. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein said data center comprises an archive for storing medical images and medical information.

20. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein said data center comprises a viewer for allowing access to medical images and medical information.

21. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein said data center comprises an application service provider.

22. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein said data center further comprises an external access interface for allowing users to access medical images and medical information at the data center.

23. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein said medical information comprises radiology information.

24. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein said interface unit comprises a broker for translating said medical information format.

25. (Original) The system of claim 24, wherein said broker translates from Health Level 7 format to Structured Query Language format.

26. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein said data center comprises a web server for allowing access to medical images and medical information via web browsers.

27. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein said interface unit transmits a link representing the location of said medical information.

28. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein said interface unit transmits a link representing the location of said medical image.

29-50. (Canceled)